Launch of INSAT-2C, 2D, 2E

2047. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the schedule for launch of INSAT-2C, 2D and 2E and whether the work on these satellites is progressing as per schedule:

(b) what are the cost-projections of each of these three satellites;

(c) what would be the capacity of each of these satellites;

(d) whether launch of INSAT-2A, scheduled for April, 1993 has been delayed, if so, the reasons therefor alongwith the sanctioned cost and its capacity; and

(e) what would be the end-use of various transponders in each of these satellites?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI BHUVNESH CHATURVEDI): (a) INSAT-2C, 2D and 2E are expected to be launched as per the following schedule:

INSAT-2C—May—July, 1995.

INSAT-2D—June—August, 1996.

INSAT-2E—September — November, 1997.

The work on the construction of these spacecraft is progressing satisfactorily.

(b) The approved project estimate for these three spacecraft is Rs. 205.25 Crores.

(c) INSAT-2C and 2D will carry 12 C-band transponders, 6 Extended C-band transponders, three Ku-band trasponders, one S-band broadcasting service transponder and one S-band mobile communications services transponder. INSAT-2E is similar to INSAT-2A and 2B and will carry 12 C-band transponders, 6 Extended C-band transponders, two S-band transponders, Very High Resolution Meteorological Instrument, Meterological Data Relay transponder and Search and Rescue Package. There may be marginal adjustments in the payload composition to meet any emerging requirements over the period of next few years.

(d) INSAT-2A launch took place as scheduled in July, 1992. INSAT-2B is scheduled for launch in July, 1993. The sanctioned cost of INSAT-2A and 2B spacecraft is Rs. 329.94 Crores and their launch cost is Rs. 198.30 Crores.

INSAT-2A and 2B are identical and each spacecraft carries 12 C-band transponders, 6 Extended C-band transponders, 2 S-band transponders, one VHRR instrument. Meteorological Data Relay transponder and Search and Rescue Package.

(e) The C-band and Extended C-band transponders are used for high density telephone traffic between major centres, medium capacity traffic between main and primary centres, remote area single channel per carrier communications, data and messaging networks, business and closed user networks, regional TV networking and Metro TV channel. The S-band transponders are used for National TV channel, Regional TV Networking, Radio Networking, Disaster Warning, Meteorological Data Dissemination, News and Facsimile Dissemination and Time and Frequency Dissemination Service. The Data Relay Transponder is used to collect meteorological data from remote sites and relay it to a central place for processing. The Very High Resolution Radio Meter is used to get cloud cover imageries in visible and infra-rod bands. The Search and Rescue Package relays to a central place any emergency alert message originating from marine and other vehicles carrying a compatible emergency beacon.

Breach of guidelines for calculating the price of gold ornaments

@2047-A SHRI ANANT RAM JASWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which ap-

@ Previonbly unstarred question 1621, transferred from 11th May, 1993.

peared in 'The Economic Times' Delhi on 16th Fabruary, 1993 under the caption "All the glitter may not be gold after all":

(b) whether Government will intervene to unravel the fraud in question and notify the same for the good of the general public;

(c) whether there are any guidelines for calculating the price of gold ornaments of 22 carat:

(d) whether any breach of these guidelines has been involved in the instant case; and

(e) what action Government propose to take against the jewellers found guilty of the breach of the guidelines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The MRTP Commission has directed tht Director General of Investigation and Registration to investigate the matter. The Office of the Director General of Investigation and Registration has also initiated suo moto investigaton under section 11 (2) of the MRTP Act in the matter. The MRTP Commission is a quasi-judicial body and is empowered to take further necessary action under the provisions of the MRTP Act on receipt of the Report from the Director General of Investigation and Registration.

(c) MRTP Commission has not laid down any guidelines for calculating the price of gold ornaments of 22 carats.

(d) and (e) Does not arise in view of reply to (c) above.

Medical aid to the dependents of Government Employees

@@2047-B. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government employees covered under the All India Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1954 are being denied medical aid and assistance for their solely dependent father or mother;

(b) whether for the purpose of determining the entitlement incomes of the dependent parents are being computed with the pensions available to them on account of freedom fighters pension;

(c) whether Government propose to grant exemption in such cases where dependent father or mother is drawing freedom fighters pension from various State Governments to become entitled under the above rules as may applicable; and

(d) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY IF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No such proposal is under consideration. However freedom fighters are otherwise entitled to medical facilities from the Government of India.

(d) Does not arise.

@@Previously Unstarred Question 1776 transferred from 12th May, 1993.